

Health Consultation

Sampling Data Review

CAMP TIMBERLAKE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

AZLE, TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

EPA FACILITY ID: TXN000605649

JUNE 17, 2008

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Division of Health Assessment and Consultation

Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Health Consultation: A Note of Explanation

An ATSDR health consultation is a verbal or written response from ATSDR to a specific request for information about health risks related to a specific site, a chemical release, or the presence of hazardous material. In order to prevent or mitigate exposures, a consultation may lead to specific actions, such as restricting use of or replacing water supplies; intensifying environmental sampling; restricting site access; or removing the contaminated material.

In addition, consultations may recommend additional public health actions, such as conducting health surveillance activities to evaluate exposure or trends in adverse health outcomes; conducting biological indicators of exposure studies to assess exposure; and providing health education for health care providers and community members. This concludes the health consultation process for this site, unless additional information is obtained by ATSDR which, in the Agency's opinion, indicates a need to revise or append the conclusions previously issued.

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Prepared By:

Texas Department of State Health Services
Under Cooperative Agreement with the
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Background and Statement of Issues

The purpose of this Health Consultation is to review the analytical results of Camp Timberlake drinking water samples to determine if a potential health threat exists for the people who attend the seasonal recreational camp.

In 2007, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Health Assessment & Toxicology Program, completed a Public Health Assessment (PHA) of the Sandy Beach Road National Priorities List (NPL) site. Due to the proximity of the nearby Camp Timberlake Girl Scouts facility, the PHA made a recommendation for the collection and analysis of groundwater samples from the camp's public water system (PWS) [1]. In August 2007 groundwater samples were collected in the Sandy Beach Road area and included samples collected from the Camp Timberlake PWS. Analytical results of those samples became available in October 2007.

[Note: Appendix A provides a list of abbreviations and acronyms used in this report].

Site Description and History

Located at 10685 Liberty School Road, the camp is situated on the western side of Eagle Mountain Lake near the communities of Pelican Bay and Azle [2]. Camp Timberlake, founded in 1946, is a 120-acre Girl Scouts of America recreational facility. The seasonal facility is set up to accommodate 102 young girls, ages 7 to 17 years old [3]. Camp Timberlake is located less than 1 mile south of the designated center of the Sandy Beach Road Superfund site [Figure 1].

In July 2004, trichloroethene (TCE, trichloroethylene) was discovered in two of the Pelican Bay public water supply wells. TCE and cis-1,2-dichloroethene (DCE) contamination were later discovered in private (residential) wells in the Azle and Pelican Bay communities as well as unincorporated areas of Tarrant County. In September 2005, the Sandy Beach Road site was added to the NPL, or more commonly known as "Superfund". On January 17, 2007, the Texas DSHS completed a PHA of the Sandy Beach Road NPL site. The PHA noted the contaminated public wells were no longer in active service, and filtration systems installed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on private drinking water wells, were effective in keeping contaminant levels below health-based standards. As a result, the PHA found there was no apparent public health hazard from exposure to contaminants in the groundwater [1].

The PHA also noted that Camp Timberlake has its own water supply system and obtains drinking water from one well located on their property. Two other groundwater wells are located on the property but are considered inactive by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) [4]. At the time that the PHA was conducted, sampling data was not available for the Camp Timberlake PWS. Therefore, the DSHS recommended that drinking water samples from the camp's well be collected, analyzed, and evaluated [1].

Discussion

Pathways Analysis

The most common ways people come into contact with chemicals are by inhalation (breathing), ingestion (eating or drinking), or by dermal contact (contact with or absorption through skin) with a substance containing the contaminant. At Camp Timberlake, with the use of groundwater as the source for drinking, bathing, and food preparation, all three exposure pathways could be of concern due to the potential of contaminants in the groundwater.

Environmental Sampling

The Camp Timberlake PWS (ID #2200205) consists of three groundwater wells, only one of which supplies drinking water. The active well is used during the months of June and July. This well, designated by the EPA as GW-13, has a depth of 545 feet [4, 5]. Groundwater at this depth is located in the Twin Mountains aquifer and has not been impacted by the shallower contamination from the Sandy Beach Road NPL site [6].

Camp Timberlake was one of the well sites included when the EPA collected 51 groundwater samples from 30 wells in the area of the Sandy Beach NPL site in August 2007¹. For this consultation, DSHS relied on the information provided in the referenced documents and assumed adequate quality assurance/quality control procedures were followed with regard to data collection, chain-of-custody, laboratory procedures, and data reporting [5].

Sample Results

Laboratory analysis of the sample collected from the GW-13 well did not detect any of the chemical contaminants associated with the Sandy Beach NPL site. Also, no other contaminants were present at concentrations that may have an adverse effect on human health. Based on the August 2007 sample results, the groundwater exposure pathway presents no public health hazard.

Conclusion

- Based upon our analysis of the August 2007 sampling data, we do not expect health effects in adults or children who may be exposed to the groundwater from the GW-13 well that is used to supply drinking water for the Camp Timberlake Girl Scouts facility.

¹ In Texas, water systems are required to have the water they provide to the public, tested every 3 years for chemical contaminants. The TCEQ has the Camp Timberlake PWS scheduled for organic chemical (e.g. TCE and DCE) testing in the summer of 2010 [7]. Due to the camp's proximity to the Sandy Beach Road NPL site, regulatory authorities may deem more frequent testing necessary.

Recommendation

- Continue periodic monitoring of the Camp Timberlake Public Water System especially for the contaminants TCE and DCE, which are associated with the Sandy Beach NPL site.

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6. Electronic Correspondence. Vincent Malott, Remedial Project Manager, United States Environmental Protection Agency to Tom Ellerbee, Environmental Health Specialist, Texas Department of State Health Services. October 10, 2007.
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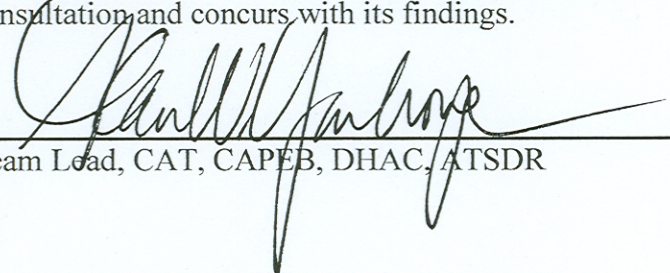
Certification

This public health consultation of the Camp Timberlake Public Water System was prepared by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) under a cooperative agreement with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). It is in accordance with approved methodologies and procedures existing at the time this public health consultation was initiated. Editorial review was completed by the Cooperative Agreement partner.



Technical Project Officer, CAT, CAPEB, DHAC, ATSDR

The Division of Health Assessment and Consultation, ATSDR, has reviewed this public health consultation and concurs with its findings.



Team Lead, CAT, CAPEB, DHAC, ATSDR

Appendix A: Acronyms and Abbreviations

ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
DCE	cis-1,2-dichloroethene
DSHS	Texas Department of State Health Services
e.g.	[<i>exempli gratia</i>] : for example
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
NPL	National Priorities List
PHA	Public Health Assessment
PWS	Public Water System
TCE	trichloroethene, trichloroethylene
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Appendix B: Figure 1

